

estimable. Wisely, therefore, did the fathers of the Kirk here labour to secure them this blessing and have the Gospel preached to them "without money and without price." And now, as the result of their labours, behold the Kirk covering the land with her churches. Numbering nearly two hundred in all, and well supported by most of the Scotch settlers and the Colonial Committee's grants, and, *in virtue of her connection with the Established Church of Scotland*, partly endowed by the Clergy Reserves, with colleges also for training ministers for her service, she is now the joy and envy of the whole land and an invaluable blessing to our people.

Looking then simply to what the Church of Scotland has done for British America alone, how manifold are her claims to your regard. Your churches, manses, colleges she has erected—your ministers, Gaelic and English-speaking, she has sent out and maintained—your students she has educated. When you consider what a blessing she has been to Scotland and Scotch people and their descendants over the world, especially in Ireland and Canada—when you think of the strong attachment your godly fathers and mothers had for that noble old Church which, with their latest breath, they entrusted to your keeping as the best legacy they could leave you—when you consider the soundness of her doctrines as taught in her standards—when you think upon her long line of great and illustrious men from the age of her Reformers down to the present time—when you think of her noble army of martyrs who of all ranks and ages, and both sexes, went to the flames and the scaffold in her defence that she might be handed down a blessing to remotest posterity *not in Scotland only*, but over the world—I feel assured when you think of all this, your regard for our national Zion will increase more and more—never will you prove false to her in the day of trial—never will you unite with those who seek her overthrow, but you will consider it your chief interest and honour to defend her, while your sentiment will be that of true Israelites: "If we forget thee, O National Zion, let our right hand forget her cunning, let our tongue cleave to the roof of our mouth."

But, dear friends of the Kirk, times of trial are before you. The Zion you love is threatened to be taken from you—*some even of her own sons will betray her!* You are sad and sorrowful at this announcement, yet it is too true. For years a systematic attempt has been made *by foes outside* to overthrow the beautiful fabric reared by the piety of your fathers, but now the attempt is made *by false brethren within the camp.* Vainly have we remonstrated with them—they would listen to no advice, and after injuring her in every way possible, they finally went over to the enemy's camp at St. John last year, betrayed her into their hands, and shamefully made terms with her foes! "Tell it not in Gath,